

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MAGNETIC PAGE MARKER

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## I- Background of the Invention

### Field of the invention

The present invention consists of a **magnetic page marker** which applied to books or notebooks, allows to place the marker on the page without opening the clips formed by its laminar walls where there are magnetic means with a cover for each of them.

### Description of the prior art

The use of bookmarks, also called markers, is very well known to identify a book or notebook page where the reader has stopped reading, and where he wishes to come back later readily.

The simplest conventional bookmarks are elongated laminar sheets placed between the page intended to mark and the immediately prior or next one, so that it is held between both pages and with one of its ends projecting out from the set of pages, once the book or notebook has been closed.

This type of bookmarks present numerous disadvantages. One of them is that, if several pages are intended to be marked by using several bookmarks, upon closing the book, said bookmarks will remain overlapped, making the access to the different marked pages difficult.

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Another disadvantage is that, as the bookmark is held by the pages by binding it, upon opening the book, it usually drops.

Australia Patent N° AU-A-47866/90 refers to a bookmark made of two magnetic elements whose respective supports are joined by a flexible means. The latter has the disadvantage of complicating the operation of placing it on the page because, until the magnetic elements stay well opposite each other, the bookmark is not fixed and may drop from the reader's hands.

South Africa Patent N° 95/8805 refers to a bookmark consisting of a pair of pieces, each of them provided with the respective magnetic elements and joined by a hinge, so that the book page lies between both pieces. In this case, the hinge is indispensable because, if a marker were placed closed ( with its magnetic elements in contact), the book page would meet resistance to penetrate.

One of these difficulties may be due to a very thin page which cannot separate the magnetic elements in order to penetrate between them. The other difficulty that occurs is that the page edge impinges against the prominent edges of the magnetic means.

## II- Summary of the invention

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The object of the present page marker is to provide a marking means for book or notebook pages, whose laminar walls form a clip that may be placed without opening. This is because the magnetic means have a cover which facilitates the admission of the edge of the page.

### **Objects and Advantages**

The present bookmark is comprised by a clip which clasps the page on an edge and remains fixed by the mutual attraction of the magnetic means. The cover covering thereof prevents the edge of the page from folding or impinging against the prominent edges of said magnetic means upon placing the bookmark. In consequence, it facilitates the admission of the page within the clip formed by the laminar walls and the magnetic means need not be separated manually in order to introduce the page.

Optionally, between the ends of the clip and the prominent edges of the magnetic means, the laminar walls may have laminar supplements each with similar height to said magnetic means, so that there is no unlevelling within the page admission area.

The laminar walls may have different sizes so that graphic advertising and/or ornamental prints can be applied on their surfaces, as well as forming embossment.

In addition to the inner cover, the bookmark may have an outer cover covering it totally or partially.

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At the joint area between the laminar walls there may be a tab so that, once the bookmark is applied, it projects out of the pages heap and facilitates marking.

Longitudinal edges of the laminar walls or, eventually, openings are used as line markers on the page marked.

Ornamental type openings may also be included.

The laminar walls may also work as support for electronic devices with displays, such as flat clocks, thermometers, or calculators.

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### III- Description of the drawings

For the purpose of clarity and better understanding of the object of the invention, several drawings illustrate it wherein it has been represented in its preferred embodiments, only in an illustrative, but not limiting manner:

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the way the bookmark is placed on the edge of the page.

Figure 2 is a front view of the bookmark already introduced on the edge of the page. It can be appreciated the surface of the longer laminar wall which serves to apply advertising or ornamental prints. It can be seen how

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the signalling tab and the upper longitudinal edge which marks the line jut out.

*Ins. D2* Figure 3 is a lower view where it can be appreciated how a book page is clasped by the clip formed by the bookmark and the magnetic means.

Figure 3A is an exploded detailed view of Figure 3 where it can be seen how the cover covers the edges of the magnetic means to facilitate the entrance of the page into the clip.

*Ins. D3* Figure 4 is a front view of the bookmark where the shape of the longer laminar wall can be appreciated.

*Ins. D4* Figure 5 is a longitudinal cut view of the bookmark (the cutting line appears as V-V in Figure 3) allowing the observation of the inner aspect of the shorter laminar wall.

*Ins. D5* Throughout the different drawings, the same reference numerals indicate equal or corresponding parts, and the sets of different elements have been indicated using letters.

### Reference Numerals in Drawings

- (1) Bookmark clip formed by laminar walls (2) (5).
- (2) Shorter laminar wall
- (3) First magnetic means fixed on the shorter laminar wall (2)
- (4) Second magnetic means fixed on the longer laminar

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wall (5).

- (5) Longer laminar wall
- (5') Surface of the longer laminar wall (5) to apply graphic advertising or ornamental prints.
- (6) Page of a book to which the bookmark is applied.
- (6') Edge of the page (6) clasped by the bookmark clip (1)
- (7) Joint between both laminar walls (2)(5).
- (7') Tab jutting out from the joint (7).
- (8) Prominent edges of the magnetic means (3) (4).
- (9) Cover which covers the prominent edges (8).
- (10) Longitudinal edges of the longer laminar wall (5) which serve to mark the lines on the page (6).
- (11) Cutting from which the tab is formed (7).

#### IV- Detailed description

Figure 1 shows the bookmark comprised by a pair of adjacent laminar walls (2)(5), which have a joint (7) on one end and on the opposite end they form a clip (1) dedicated to clasp the edge (6') of the page (6). Into the clip (1) there are two magnetic means (3)(4) having a mutual attraction force.

Figure 2 shows the longer laminar wall (5) whose large surface (5') can be used to apply graphic prints such as advertising messages or ornaments and whose longitudinal edge (10) is a line marking means. At the joint (7) between

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both walls (2)(5) a tab (7') juts out outstanding notoriously from the edge (6') of the page (6).

Figure 3 shows how the edge (6') of the page (6) is inserted into the clip (1) formed by the laminar walls (2) (5) and the magnetic means (2)(5) with the cover (9).

*Sub D7* Figure 3A shows an exploded view of Figure 3, wherein it can be seen in detail the first magnetic means (3) fixed to the shorter laminar wall (2) and to the second laminar wall (4) fixed to the longer laminar wall (5). Both magnetic means (3)(4) are covered by the cover (9), particularly its prominent edges (8). Therefore, the above mentioned cover (9) prevents the impingements between the page (6) and said prominent edges (8), facilitating the entrance thereof (6) into the clip (1).

Figure 4 shows the longer laminar wall (5), whose longitudinal edges (10) serve as line marking means and from one of its transverse edges the tab juts out (7').

*Sub A6* In Figure 5, the cut shows the shorter laminar wall (2) which, in the inner part of the clip (1), has the first magnetic means fixed (3) above which there is the cover (9) [in this case, it is transparent]. The cutting (11) on the transverse edge results from the cut with which the tab is formed (7').

In the present embodiment, the adjacent laminar walls (2)(5) are formed by a laminar sheet folded by means of a folding line which separates one wall respect the other.

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The cover (9) may be transparent or not, and, in addition, it may be made of different materials, such as a layer of plastic or cellulosic material.

### Operation

The clip (1) formed by laminar walls (2)(5) remains closed due to the mutual attraction force exerted by the magnetic means (3)(4), the page (6) being clasped in between them, such as it can be seen in Figures 1 and 2.

When introducing the bookmark on the edge (6') of the page (6), the entrance of the latter (6) is facilitated by the presence of the cover (9). This is due to the fact that said cover (9) facilitates the page sliding (6) and prevents the impingement between the edge (6') of the page ) and the prominent edges (8) of the magnetic means (3)(4), as it can be observed in Figures 3, 3A and 5.

The joint (7) between the shorter walls (2)(5) acts as the stop of the page (6) admission into the clip (1). Therefore, the tab (7') is the element which outstands most from the pages (6) once the bookmark is placed, as can be seen in Figures 2, 3 and 4.

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